

The chancellor was the supreme administrative official and in reality viceroy on the mainland, where Roger's sons were too young and inexperienced to conduct the government satisfactorily. The exigencies of the time* however, gave the chancellor more of a military character than was usual in Western kingdoms; Guerin and Robert of Selby lead armies, command military areas, and have in their hands the negotiations of war, peace, and alliance with Pope or Basileus. A vice-chancellor acted as the chancellor's deputy in the Curia; the constables represented the military organisation of the kingdom and supervised the feudal levies. The grand camerarius may be taken as the head of the civil government in the Norman period with MB subordinate *m&gfstri* *camerarius*; there was high in office a *mttgisier* *cappelhnus* with under him; the chancellor Guerin held this title taking the higher place*.

These were the first ministers of a fully-organised central government from which

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